

PRAYER: Begin with a few moments of sharing thanks and praises in prayer.

Leaders, it's your call; you may choose to incorporate more information/scriptures as time allows for your small group lesson. Background: Having led the children of Israel to the entrance of the Promised land, Moses is forbidden to guide them in. His servant and aide, Joshua, is chosen by God to take the people in, lead them to victory over their enemies, and divide the land among them. Joshua's training has included accompanying Moses partially up Mt. Sinai, being the captain of the army under Moses' direction, and being sent as a spy into Canaan. He was one of only two spies who believed Israel could possess the land by God's enablement. The theme of this book of Joshua would be obedience brings long-awaited victory in the Promised Land.

What employer-employee, teacher-pupil or coach-player relationship has most influenced you? In what ways?

What instructions did your mom usually repeat at least three times as you went off on your own?

Read: Joshua 1:1-3

1. What has just happened "off-stage" as this scene opens? What does this mean for Joshua?

Read: Joshua 1:3-9

2. What promises are given to Joshua? (vv. 3-5,9) Which ones ask Joshua to look back and remember what God has done in the past?
3. Which ones ask him to look ahead and believe God for future blessings?
4. Which commands accompany the promises?
5. Which would seem most terrifying to one who had to fill Moses' shoes?
6. What is necessary for success and prosperity?

Read: Joshua 1:8

7. What do you think God means here by "success"?

PLAN for ACTION:

1. Which command given to Joshua would be the toughest for you to obey?
2. Which of His promise would be most helpful to you, if you were left "on your own"? Why?
3. What challenges lies before you now?
4. How can this group pray for you this week?